

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 095473

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

UNCLAS STATE 095473

FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM LUERS

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, VE

SUBJECT: VISIT OF NAPOLEON CHAGNON, ANTHROPOLOGIST

1. NAPOLEON CHAGNON, AN ANTHROPOLOGIST FROM PENN STATE UNIVERSITY, IS PLANNING TO VISIT CARACAS BEGINNING ON APRIL 24. AS YOU RECALL, HE IS A FRIEND, WHO I INTRODUCED TO YOU BEFORE YOU WENT TO CARACAS LAST YEAR. THE PURPOSE OF HIS TRIP WILL BE TO ATTEMPT TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT A VISIT TO THE AMAZONAS TERRITORY TO CONTINUE RESEARCH ON THE YANOMAMA WITH SOME OF HIS STUDENTS. CHAGNON HAS BEEN TOLD BY THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT THAT FOREIGN ANTHROPOLOGISTS MAY NO LONGER WORK IN THE AREA. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF HIS LONG PERIOD (15 YEARS) WORK, THE GOV MIGHT BE WILLING TO MAKE AN EXCEPTION IN HIS CASE IF HE WERE PREPARED TO TRAIN TWO OR THREE VENEZUELAN ANTHROPOLOGISTS. CHAGNON HAS TALKED TO MARCEL ROCHE ON THE PHONE SEVERAL TIMES. DURING HIS VISIT TO CARACAS HE WILL TALK TO ROCHE AND THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE PEOPLE. IF HE CAN REACH AN AGREEMENT WITH THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT NEXT WEEK HE WILL RETURN LATER THIS SPRING OR IN EARLY SUMMER WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 095473

HIS STUDENTS TO VISIT THE AMAZONAS.

2. HE HAS ASKED IF I WOULD INFORM YOU OF HIS VISIT.
HE WOULD LIKE TO CHAT WITH YOU ABOUT HIS PROBLEMS AND
SEEK YOUR ADVICE. I TOLD HIM I WOULD INFORM YOU OF
HIS REQUEST. HE WILL SEND YOU A CABLE AND CONTACT
YOUR OFFICE WHEN HE IS IN CARACAS. ROBINSON

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NNN

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